YOUNG SUNDAY COMICS SPECIAL

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INIO ASANO WORKS

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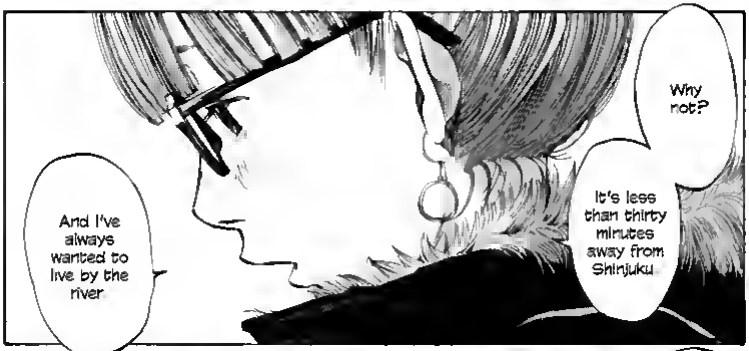
mortilla — перевод с японского
der_Mond — корректура, сканирование, ретушь, тайпсет

Awaiting Spring

solanin side story

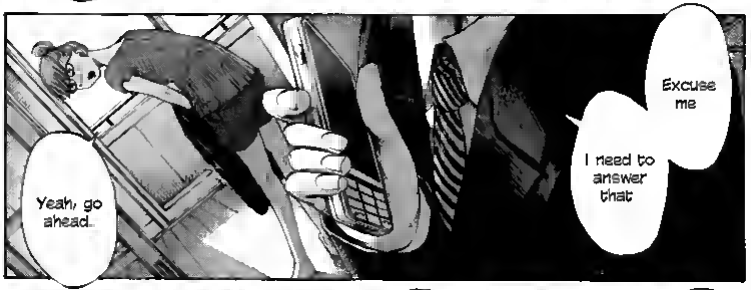


Setagaya - a wealthy area in Tokyo.

You know, there aren't that many inhabitable houses around.
And it's off season now. That's why we don't really have anything to offer you.
This one is also made of wood. However, it's not very new.
It's been vacant for a while now, so I think the owner will be flexible with the rent.

By the way, is this your boyfriend?
Oh yeah! I remember
In the spring, you can enjoy the sakura from the balcony.
I guess you can say that

Hmm...
It's more than enough space for a single person.
Oh, so you'll be living here alone?
As a matter of fact, the previous tenant also lived here by herself.


Excuse me
I need to answer that
Yeah, go ahead.

Hmm... Still...
I guess I'll take it.
You might freeze here when it starts getting colder.
You can't stand the cold.
As if there's nothing else.

What are you doing?
Haha

... to live in this room.
I'm picturing what it'd be like...

What's this?
Eh?
Did somebody forget it here?
What's it called?
Ah... Erm, that's... When playing the guitar ...
Or maybe ...
Hm ..
The previous tenant was a musician?
You mean ...

...Her boyfriend was the musician. And one day, he landed at her place, penniless as usual.
But conscience won over and he suggested they break up, by mumbling something unclear...
As a result, with their hearts broken, she gave up on the apartment...
Something like that?
How sad. But without a drop of imagination...
And you wanted to become a writer?
Realizing your dreams is easy when you've graduated from a prestigious university, and immediately gotten a job at a good company
It was a goal for me, not a dream.
Alright, so where are they now, those two?
You'll probably say he fell into debt with the mafia and is now at the bottom of Tokyo Bay.
Hm...

I think they're leading
A perfectly normal life somewhere
People don't give up so easily

I guess

I'm suddenly feeling really good!
I'll go and buy that sofa, the one I've always wanted My income will allow it
The sakura trees will blossom just as I'll be moving in I'll be able to get drunk on the balcony
Wow, we need to return the boat already
Please
I don't want to go back
Oh?
Did you say something?
No, no, nothing important

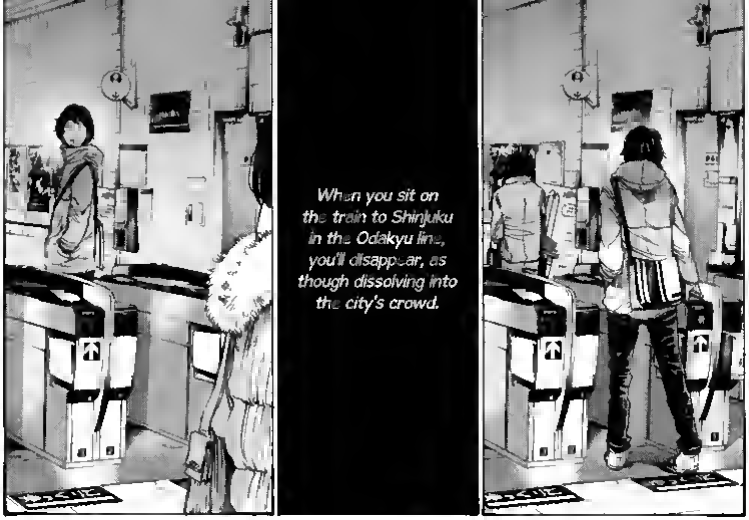
Eh?

We're splitting up?
I was thinking ...
Are you sure?

I see ...

Haven't we been over this enough already?
We have...

Then, if anything happens, I'll write.
Right
Thanks. For keeping me company today.


When you sit on the train to Shinjuku in the Odakyu line, you'll disappear, as though dissolving into the city's crowd.

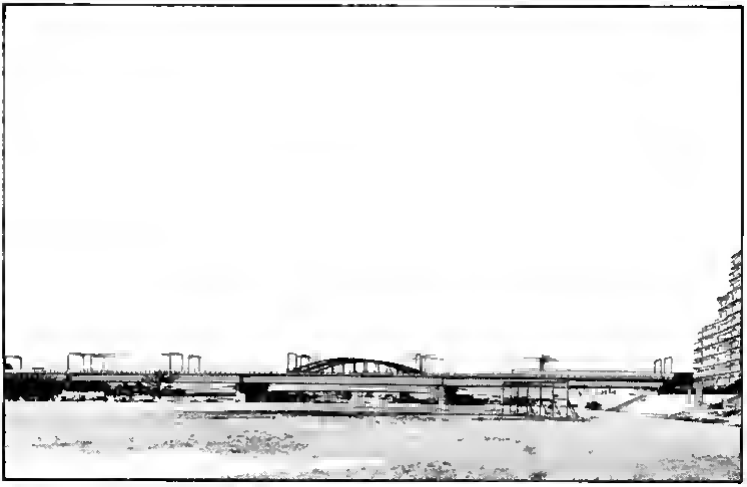
Send my regards to your new boyfriend!

That's how we played our roles until the very end.

You - a tender, understanding lover.

And me - an egoistic, cold lover.

All alone in my two room apartment, in the suburbs of Tokyo, I am waiting for the thaw to come.



I only have words to express what I feel.
But words are fickle.
If only I could play on an instrument...

Spring, please come faster.

E N D